AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please add new Claims 16-21 as indicated below.

Claims 1-8 (**Canceled**).

9. (**Original**) A method for controlling battery power comprising the acts of:

selectively providing a first external power source or a second external power source to a device coupled to a system power terminal;

coupling an internal battery to the system power terminal via a series-connected transistor; and

charging the internal battery by regulating the transistor to conduct a charging current in a first direction from the system power terminal to a positive battery terminal during a charging mode, wherein the charging current is linearly adjusted to prevent a supply current from exceeding a predefined threshold.

10. (**Original**) The method of Claim 9, further comprising the act of discharging the internal battery by regulating the transistor to conduct a discharging current in a second direction from the positive battery terminal to the system power terminal during a discharging mode.

11. (**Original**) The method of Claim 9, wherein the impedance of the transistor varies to limit the level of the charging current.

12. (**Original**) The method of Claim 9, wherein the charging mode occurs when the voltage on the system power terminal is greater than the voltage of the internal battery.

13. (**Original**) The method of Claim 10, wherein the discharging mode occurs when the voltage on the system power terminal is less than the voltage of the internal battery.

14. (**Original**) The method of Claim 10, wherein the discharging mode occurs in response to a discharge command.

15. (**Canceled**).

16. **(New)** A method for controlling power to a battery, the method comprising:

selectively providing an external primary power source or an external secondary power source to a system power terminal of a device with an internal battery;

coupling the internal battery to the system power terminal through a transistor; and

adjusting a control terminal of the transistor with a driving signal to linearly regulate the level of current conducted by the transistor to charge the internal battery.

17. **(New)** The method of Claim 16, wherein the external primary power source is an AC adapter and the external secondary power source is a Universal Serial Bus power interface.

18. **(New)** The method of Claim 16, further comprising:

sensing current supplied by the external secondary power source and generating an associated current sense signal;

comparing the current sense signal with a threshold value; and

overriding the driving signal to reduce the transistor's current level when the current sense signal exceeds the threshold value.

19. **(New)** The method of Claim 16, wherein the transistor is a P-channel enhancement mode MOSFET with a source terminal coupled to the system power terminal and a drain terminal coupled to the internal battery.

20. **(New)** The method of Claim 16, wherein the transistor is a MOSFET with a configurable body contact.

21. **(New)** The method of Claim 16, wherein the external secondary power source is automatically disconnected from the system power terminal when the external primary power source is connected.